UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA

ALI SALEH KAHLAH AL-MARRI ,)
Plaintiff,)
v.) Civil A. No. 2:05-cv-02259-HFF-RSC
ROBERT M. GATES,)
Secretary of Defense of the United States,)
COMMANDER JOHN PUCCIARRELLI,)
U.S.N. Commander,)
Naval Consolidated Brig,)
)
Defendants.)
	_)

JOINT RESPONSE TO THE FIRST OF THE COURT'S MARCH 9, 2009 INTERROGATORIES REGARDING MOOTNESS

The parties hereby jointly respond to the Court's interrogatories of March 9, 2009, regarding questions of mootness, <u>see</u> Docket # 74. The Court's order noted two recent developments: (i) the President's executive order transferring control of plaintiff from the Secretary of Defense to the Attorney General for criminal prosecution in the Central District of Illinois, and (ii) the Supreme Court's order in <u>Al-Marri v. Spagone</u>, No. 08-368, 2009 WL 564940, at *1 (Mar. 6, 2009), approving such transfer of plaintiff and vacating the Fourth Circuit's judgment in <u>Al-Marri v. Pucciarelli</u>, 534 F.3d 213 (4th Cir. 2008) (*en banc*). <u>See id.</u> Against the backdrop of those developments, the Court made two inquiries of the parties:

- (1) Do these recent developments render moot plaintiff's motion for interim relief? If not, please explain to what extent that motion remains before the Court?
- (2) Has plaintiff's underlying lawsuit been rendered moot by these developments? If not, what aspects of that case remain before the Court?
- Id. Under the Court's most recent orders, see Docket ## 75, 76, the parties are to file a joint

response by noon on March 19, 2009, to the first interrogatory, and a response to the second interrogatory by March 27, 2009. Accordingly, the parties hereby submit the following joint report on the Court's first interrogatory.

1. Whether Plaintiff's Motion for Interim Relief Is Moot

Joint Position: The parties agree that plaintiff's motion for interim relief is moot.

Dated: March 19, 2009 Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Andrew J. Savage, III

ANDREW J. SAVAGE, III Federal ID Number 3734 SAVAGE & SAVAGE, P.A. 15 Prioleau Street Post Office Box 1002 Charleston, South Carolina 29402 (843) 720-7470

JONATHAN HAFETZ STEVEN R. SHAPIRO JAMEEL JAFFER American Civil Liberties Union Foundation 125 Broad Street, 18th Fl. New York, New York 10004 (212) 549-2500

LAWRENCE S. LUSTBERG Gibbons, P.C. One Gateway Center Newark, New Jersey 07102-5310 /s/ Kevin F. McDonald

KEVIN F. MCDONALD First Assistant United States Attorney 1441 Main Street, Suite 500 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 Tel. (803) 929-3000

/s/ Peter J. Phipps

PETER J. PHIPPS

United States Department of Justice Civil Division, Federal Programs Branch

Tel: (202) 616-8482 Fax: (202) 616-8470 peter.phipps@usdoj.gov

Mailing Address:
Post Office Box 883

Washington, D.C. 20044

Courier Address:

20 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001

(973) 596-4500

Attorneys for Defendants

SIDNEY S. ROSDEITCHER Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP 1285 Avenue of the Americas New York, New York 10019 (212) 373-3000

AZIZ HUQ EMILY BERMAN Breenan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law 161 Avenue of the Americas, 12th Fl. New York, New York 10013 (202) 998-6730

Attorneys for Plaintiff